

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 01219 180911Z

10

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 SP-02 AID-05 NSC-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 /051 W

----- 070712

O R 180701Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MADRAS PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2584

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1219

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM E.)

SUBJ: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT: SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS

PASS SECRETARY SIMON'S PARTY

1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED AND CONCUR FULLY IN POINTS MADE IN STATE OVERVIEW PAPER, INCLUDING PROPOSED TALKING POINTS FOR SECRETARY SIMON'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE.

2. AS NOTED IN THIS PAPER, SECRETARY WILL BE FIRST AMERICAN CABINET OFFICIAL TO VISIT COLOMBO IN MANY YEARS AND HIS VISIT MOST TIMELY. PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE, WHO PLACES GREAT STOCK IN PERSONAL RELATIONS, DEVELOPED CLOSE RAPPORT WITH PRESIDENT NIXON DURING HER VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN OCTOBER, 1971 AND THROUGH SUBSEQUENT CORRESPONDENCE. OTHER TOP CEYLONSE POLITICAL LEADERS ALSO DEVELOPED HEALTHY RESPECT FOR NIXON ADMINISTRATION BECAUSE OF GSL'S APPROBATION OF ITS FOREIGN POLICY MOVES VIS-A-VIS SOVIET UNION, PRC AND SOUTH EAST ASIA, BECAUSE IT PROVIDED SRI LANKA WITH MILITARY ASSISTANCE AT TIME OF APRIL 1971 INSURGENCY, AND BECAUSE OF US ECONOMIC HELP TO GSL STRUGGLING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COLOMB 01219 180911Z

ECONOMY.

3. FORD ADMINISTRATION, HOWEVER, HAS REMAINED SOMETHING OF UNKNOWN QUANTITY OF CEYLONSE DESPITE ASSURANCES BOTH HERE AND WASHINGTON AND THIS YEAR'S SUBSTANTIAL AID INPUT. SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT THEREFORE IS VALUABLE IN POLITICAL TERMS BECAUSE IT SIGNALS FORD ADMINISTRATION'S INTEREST IN SRI LANKA. HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER PROVIDES EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH-LEVEL ASSURANCES OF CONTINUITY OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AND OF USG'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN ITS SUPPORT FOR SRI LANKA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS.

4. SECRETARY WILL ALSO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP SIMILAR THEMES, AS APPROPRIATE, IN WORKING SESSION WITH GSL OFFICIALS WHICH IS SCHEDULED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER. FOR THIS SESSION GSL FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THEY WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SECRETARY'S VIEWS ON FOLLOWING TOPICS:

5. A. CURRENT INTERNATIONAL TRADE, ECONOMIC AND ENERGY TRENDS.

B. EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SUMMARY OVERVIEW BY SECRETARY INCLUDING HIS ASSESSMENT OF STATE OF AMERICAN AND WORLD ECONOMY, AS REPORTED IN SUMMARY FORM IN APRIL 17 WIRELESS FILE (NESA-37).

6. A. US ECONOMIC, TRADE AND ASSISTANCE POLICIES TOWARD LDCS, ESPECIALLY MOST SEVERELY AFFECTED (MSA) COUNTRIES, SUCH AS SRI LANKA.

B. EMBASSY COMMENT: SECRETARY MIGHT WISH TO UNDERScore POTENTIAL ADVANTAGES TO SRI LANKA OF 1974 TRADE ACT'S GENERALIZED PREFERENCES. SRI LANKA HAS BEEN NAMED BENEFICIARY COUNTRY. HE MIGHT ALSO WISH TO NOTE MAGNITUDE OF US ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 1975 AND RECALL THAT AT WORLD BANK-SPONSORED AID GROUP MEETING IN PARIS APRIL 9 US REPRESENTATIVE REAFFIRMED USG'S INTENTION PROVIDE CONTINUED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 COLOMB 01219 180911Z

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 76. (WE ARE REPEATING PARIS 09165 REPORTING THIS MEETING). SUM TOTAL OF U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BANDARANAIKE GOVERNMENT OVER PAST FIVE YEARS IS \$94.5 MILLION.

7. A. US ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WITH PARTICULAR RELEVANCE TO DEVELOPING NATIONS.

B. EMBASSY COMMENT: SECRETARY INTER ALIA
MIGHT WISH CONVEY HIS VIEWS RE ROLE OF MINISTERIAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ASSOCIATED WITH WORLD BANK AND
IMF.

8. ON THEIR PART, GSL OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED THEY
PLAN TO CONVEY TO SECRETARY SIMON THEIR VIEWS ON
SOME OF FOREGOING TOPICS. THEY CAN BE EXPECTED
TO STRESS GSL'S DEEP CONCERN THAT RELATIVELY STAG-
NANT PRICES FOR CEYLONSE PRIMARY EXPORTS (TEA,
RUBBER, AND COCONUT) CANNOT KEEP PACE WITH MOUNT-
ING COSTS OF ESSENTAIL IMPORTS (GRAINS, SUGAR,
PETROLEUM, FERTILIZER). WHILE NOTING THEIR CONCERN
WITH SHARP HIKE IN OIL PRICES, CEYLONSE MAY ALSO
REVEAL THEIR SYMPATHIES WITH RECENT EFFORTS OF
OIL PRODUCERS TO BROADEN INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS
OF ENERGY PRICES TO INCLUDE PRICE AGREEMENTS ON
PRIMARY PRODUCTS EXPORTED BY LDCS. FINALLY, GSL
OFFICIALS MAY WANT TO EXPLAIN GSL'S POLICIES AIMED
AT INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY OF
FOODSTUFFS SUCH AS RICE AND SUBSIDIARY CROPS.
VAN HOLLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COLOMB01219
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750136-0331
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750434/aaaabfzh.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY SIMON'S VISIT: SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS PASS SECRETARY SIMON'S PARTY
TAGS: OVIP, (SIMON, WILLIAM E)
To: TRSY BOMBAY MADRAS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006